HIV infection in Karnataka and AIDS awareness programme

1889. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Karnataka is among the top three Indian States with over 1 per cent incidence of HIV infections, among the adults in the country;

(b) if so, what are programmes launched by Government to create awareness about HIV and AIDS among the youth; and

(c) what are the initiatives taken for prevention of parent to child transmission of HIV virus?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (DR. ANBUMANI RAMDOSS): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) School AIDS Education Programme and College AIDS Education Programme have been taken up in Karnataka to create awareness about HIV/AIDS amongst children and young adults.

(c) 276 Prevention of Parent to Child Transmission Centres have been established in the district hospitals, medical college hospitals and selected taluk hospitals where counselling and testing facilities are available. HIV positive women are administered one dose of nevirapine at the time of labour and a dose is given to the child within 72 hours of birth.

Deficient iodine supply in iodised salt

1890. SHRI S.P.M. SYED KHAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nearly 70 per cent of the iodised salt available in the country contain less that 5 parts per million (PPM) against the prescribed level of 15 PPM making Government's propoganda for use of iodised salt useless;

(b) whether inadequacy of technology and poor method of testing is one of the main reasons for rise of iodine deficiency in the North-Eastern States; and

(c) Government's efforts taken with regard to above and achievements in reducing the iodine deficiency through iodised salt?